BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U.S.A.

The Rev. Edward W. Diehl

Alaska Highway Chaplain — Tok Junction, Alaska
Big Delta to Border; 40 Mile, Slana, Nabesna
(450 miles of highway)

Services: TOK CHAPEL, Sunday—
Church School - - 9:30 A.M.
Worship - - - 11:00 A.M.

NORTHWAY CHAPEL, Friday—
Church School - - 4:00 P.M.
Worship - - - 7:30 P.M.

Dot Lake, Forty-Mile, Nabesna

"Ye are the Light of the World"

This is the official Christian ministry designated by the Home Missions Department of the National Council of Churches to the Presbyterian Church to serve all denominations.

The Presbyterian Church in Alaska maintains 88 missionary enterprises, including 75 churches and preaching stations.

Perm File

MAY 21 1957

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THE ALASKA HIGHWAY PARISH
Dept. of Mobile Ministries and Sunday School Missions
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U.S.A.
The Rev. Edward W. Diehl 1953-57 Tok Junction, Alaska

A H I S T O R Y

March 1957

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The following is a short history of the work along the Highways and cannot begin to tell the story of the extreme weather conditions, bad roads, the difficulty in obtaining supplies, ordering materials and equipment for buildings and furnishings, the high cost of living, the voluntary sacrificial time given by a minority of the local people to help build, the material gifts and money contributed, the concern and frustrations of the ministry, the permanent damage to physical health, and finally, the life lost in the work of the Lord.

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Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lee Evans of Tok Lodge donated the red cedar siding for the ceiling. Mrs. Grace Waterman of Oak Park, Ill., provided the red antique velvet pulpit cover and drapes. In the spring of 1957, she bought the baptismal font and chair, pulpit, communion table, and pews for the chapel as a memorial to her son Wesson Seyburn 'Hertrais, who enlisted the day following Pearl Harbor and served in the U.S. Navy through the War. He was in command of the L.S.T. 1000 until the ship was fired upon by the enemy and he was wounded. Mrs. Waterman has also donated church furnishings to the chapels at Big Delta, College, Woodland Park, and Suntrana, and carries on the work of Alaska Missions all over the United States.

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The two storage sheds were donated by Marwell Constr. Co. and Jerry Ahlin, costing $100.

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Dot Lake is a native Athabascan Indian Village located 50 miles northwest of Tok. During the year 1954, services were conducted here every Sunday evening in a chapel built by the local lodge owners. This ministry was then discontinued and period visits are made to the home of Peter Charles, where approximately 20 adults and 15 children congregate for services and church school. A $10 filing fee was paid for land in July 1955. This land is situated next to the school and may be homecited for any future uses of the church. One boy, Ivan Charles, is now at Sheldon Jackson Jr. College, the only native boy from the highway to attend this school.

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The ACS Station at Northway now has 3 married couples and 6 single men living on the base.

STATION 3 PIPELINE - TOK

To date, approximately 25 families are living in trailers and quarters here located 6 miles north of Tok. Nine other personnel work here and 24 children are enrolled in the church school held Sunday afternoon. Two boys and one girl are enrolled at Sheldon Jackson, bringing the total to 8 young people from the highway enrolled there. The personnel here have shown a fine spirit of cooperation towards the church.

INDIVIDUAL MINISTRY TO LODGES

The owners and workers in lodges along the highways have always been cooperative in every way. They have given of their money, discounts on merchandise, allowed plates to be sold, and signs to be put up, and have had worship services, church school, and recreational programs held in the lodges.

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS

To the following persons, and many others, who have given of their time, efforts, money, to make the work at Tok and Northway especially, possible, we say "thank you". The fruits of your labor are very much in evidence.

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Mr.-Mrs. Norman Hill
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Northway

Mr.-Mrs. Felton Jackson
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Mr.-Mrs. Thomas Glazier
Mr.-Mrs. Fred Glover
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Mr.-Mrs. Albert Moring
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Mr.-Mrs. Andrew P. Nelsen
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Sgt.-Mrs. Wm. C. Wright
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Mr.-Mrs. Ray Alderton
Mr.-Mrs. Max Brocies
Mr.-Mrs. Jerry Ahlin
Mr.-Mrs. Warren Vanderberg
Mr.-Mrs. Eldo Flory
Mr.-Mrs. Seward Harbison
Mr.-Mrs. Charles Harbison

Northway

Mr.-Mrs. Lindstrom
Mr.-Mrs. Newton Funkhowser
Sgt.-Mrs. Aubry Smith
Mr.-Mrs. John Adams

Others

Church Schools, men's Organizations, women's Groups, individuals, and churches outside.

The 1953 Plymouth Station was replaced by a 1956 Plymouth. The old car covered 60,000 miles. The equipment provided includes Tape Recorder, Film Projector, Slide Projector, P.A. System, (including three speed record player and microphone, and folding organs. Publicity: Presby. Life June 27, 1953 (General Assembly issue), and Aug. 6, 1955 Presbyterian Life, and Coronet Magazine July 1956 issue.

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Northway

Mr.-Mrs. Lindstrom
Mr.-Mrs. Newton Funkhowser
Sgt.-Mrs. Aubry Smith
Mr.-Mrs. John Adams

Others

Church Schools, men's Organizations, women's Groups, individuals, and churches outside.

The 1953 Plymouth Station was replaced by a 1956 Plymouth. The old car covered 60,000 miles. The equipment provided includes Tape Recorder, Film Projector, Slide Projector, P.A. System, (including three speed record player and microphone, and folding organs. Publicity: Presby. Life June 27, 1953 (General Assembly issue), and Aug. 6, 1955 Presbyterian Life, and Coronet Magazine July 1956 issue.